

# Catch up in the primary classroom - Supreme Spellings

## Spelling Patterns

Children need to be taught useful spelling patterns and rules. One good technique is to begin by giving children a list of words to sort. Then ask them to look carefully at how they sorted the words and see if they can spot the spelling rule. Finish by explaining the rule, giving further words, and see if the children can use the rule to sort the words more quickly.

If you are sending home spellings that follow a pattern, it's a good idea to make that pattern explicit, so that parents can help their children to learn their spellings.

## To improve and develop their spelling, children need to:

- Develop an interest in words
- Feel safe about trying new words, not just words they're sure about
- Learn about, the way words are built up using syllables
- Know about the basic spelling patterns of English
- Have a range of memorizing strategies
- Explore the meanings of words
- Understand prefixes and suffixes
- Write for their own enjoyment, without the fear that they will be criticized
- Read for pleasure

## 8 Spelling Strategies to use in the classroom

- Divide words into syllables **re-mem-ber**
- Use mnemonics e.g. **necessary (one collar two sleeves)**
- Use knowledge of affixes **dis-satisfied**
- Find words within words: **a rat in separate**
- Say as it sounds: **Wed nes day par li a ment**
- Use etymology: **bi cycle = two wheels**
- Learn spelling rules e.g. **adding ing / making plurals**
- Make links with meaning and their spelling: **sign signal signature**

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Spell It Out: The Curious, Enthralling, and Extraordinary Story of English Spelling by David Crystal



Spelling Rules, Riddles and Remedies by Sally Raymond